

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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P R 282035Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4503

DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO 89TH MAW ANDREWS AFB MD

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TREASURY FOR SHAPIRO/DAVIS

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: OVIP (SIMON, WILLIAM E.)

SUBJECT: EMBASSY SUPPORT FOR IDB MEETING IN CANCUN

REF STATE 73911

1. WITH IDB MEETING AT CANCUN BUT TWO WEEKS AWAY, IT APPEARS THAT A NUMBER OF SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS REMAIN UNSETTLED AND PRESENT SOME DIFFICULTIES.

2. ACCOMMODATION: THE PRINCIPAL PROBLEM IS INSUFFICIENT HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS AT CANCUN. WE ARE INFORMED THAT USDEL HAS BEEN ASSIGNED 50 ROOMS (31 CAMINO REAL AND 19 ARISTOS) BUT THERE IS SOME UNCERTAINTY ABOUT PERIOD OF RESERVATIONS. WE WERE ADVISED TODAY BY HOTEL SOURCE THAT MEXICAN CONVENTION WILL OCCUPY VIRTUALLY ALL ROOMS AT CAMINO REAL THROUGH REPEAT THROUGH MAY 14. AT CAMINO REAL, SUITE 5121 HAS BEEN SET ASIDE FOR SECTREAS, ADJOINING ROOM 5119 FOR WHATEVER PURPOSE WE DESIGNATE, AND ROOMS 5201 THROUGH 5206 FOR SECRETARIAT AND EMBASSY CONTROL ROOM. MOREOVER, PROSPECTS ARE GOOD FOR LOCATING 18 ROOMS ON FIFTH FLOOR, HOWEVER, HOTEL MANAGER BELIEVES THESE RESERVATIONS FOR PERIOD MAY 15-19.

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2. TO PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR SECTREAS AND USDEL OF 50 OR MORE PEOPLE, EMBASSY RECOMMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT STAFF OF 16, INCLUDING 4 MARINES. EARLY ON WE SOUGHT AND THOUGHT WE HAD A COMMITMENT ON ROOMS FOR THIS TEAM AT PLAYA CARIBO AND PARADOR HOTELS, BUT NOW INFORMED ROOMS TAKEN OVER BY FONATUR, THUS LEAVING SUPPORT STAFF WITHOUT SLEEPING ACCOMMODATIONS. ALL OTHER HOTELS CLAIM BE FULLY BOOKED. ADDITIONALLY, EMBASSY REQUESTED ROOMS FOR ESTIMATED 20 USAF CREW MEMBERS AND FOR DRIVERS OF RENTED CARS, BUT WE ARE TOLD UNLIKELY ANY ACCOMMODATION WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THEM AT CANCUN. EMBASSY STILL SEARCHING DESPERATELY FOR 21 ROOMS (8 FOR STAFF, 3 FOR DRIVERS, AND 10 FOR AIR CREWS).

3. USAF ACCOMMODATIONS: IT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED THAT DURING PERIOD OF SECRETARY'S STAY AT CANCUN THE AIRCRAFT AND CREW BE MOVED TO MERIDA, ABOUT 20 MINUTES FLIGHT FROM CANCUN, OR EVEN TO MEXICO CITY, ABOUT 1-1/2 HOUR FLYING TIME. ACCOMODATIONS AT BOTH POINTS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR CREW MEMBERS.

4. CANCUN AIRPORT FACILITIES: WE ARE ALSO INFORMED CANCUN AIRPORT NORMALLY OPEN ONLY FROM 0600-1800 HRS DAILY AND HAS NO VASI LIGHTS, NO ADF, NO ILS. ONLY VOR REPORTEDLY AVAILABLE. USAF WILL UNDOUBTEDLY WISH CONSIDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES WHEN DETERMINING ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TIMES.

5. VEHICLE TRANSPORTATION: ACCORDING SHAPIRO/COLE LETTER APRIL 1, USDEL WILL REQUIRE 15 VEHICLES. IT HAS BEEN CONFIRMED THAT GOM WILL PROVIDE THREE SEDANS. EMBASSY PROPOSES MAKE UP ADDITIONAL NEED FOR 12 VEHICLES AS FOLLOWS: 4 EMBASSY VEHICLES TO BE DRIVEN FROM MEXICO CITY TO CANCUN (ESTIMATED COST DOLS 3,500, INCLUDING DRIVER PER DIEM); 1 VEHICLE FROM CONSULATE MERIDA (ESTIMATED COSTS DOLS 500); AND 7 RENTED SEDANS FROM MEXICO CITY (ESTIMATED COSTS DOLS 5,600). IF TRANSPORTATION REQUIRED AS EARLY AS MAY 13, EMBASSY AND RENTED VEHICLES WILL HAVE TO DEPART MEXICO CITY NLT MAY 10 SINCE 1200 MILE TRIP REQUIRES THREE FULL DAYS TRAVEL TIME.

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6. COMMUNICATIONS: WE UNDERSTAND THAT TREASURY COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER MCCOY IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE CANCUN MAY 1, AND THAT A DIRECT LEASED TELEPHONE LINE AND OTHER FACILITIES HAVE BEEN ARRANGED. EMBASSY WILL PROVIDE RADIO BASE STATION AT CAMINO REAL AND HANDY TALKIES FOR MARINES AND SUPPORT STAFF.

7. OTHER SUPPORT: EMBASSY ANTICIPATES NO PROBLEMS

PROVIDING OFFICE SUPPLIES AND SUNDRY ITEMS AS REQUESTED.

8. FUNDING: AS PROVIDED REFTL, EMBASSY WILL ACCEPT
BILLING FOR AUTHORIZED EXPENDITURES CHARGING TREASURY
FUND CITE TO BE PROVIDED.
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